

# HANDOUT 7 BALANCING INTERESTS



In each column, rank what you think the interest level is for each procedure on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the highest). Use what you learned in **T.L.O.**, **Vernonia v. Acton**, and **Earls** to decide.

SCHOOL PROCEDURE	Privacy Interest	Security Interest
Students entering the building at Madison High must walk through a metal detector.		
Students at Hamilton High must walk through a metal detector and put their book bags through an x-ray machine before entering the building.		
Jefferson High reserves the right to "tap" all the pay phones in the hallways of the school and listen in on conversations. Students are informed of this at the beginning of each school year.		
Martin Luther King High has a counselor available to talk to students about their problems. Any teacher can "sign out" from the counselor's office student files that contain notes kept on each student's sessions.		
Big City High has video cameras in the hallways filming the rows of student lockers. If students act suspiciously around their lockers, the principal searches their lockers for drugs or weapons. Videotapes are routinely turned over to the police.		
Small City High conducts random locker searches of all boys' lockers and has removed all doors from the toilet stalls in the girls' bathroom.		
At Kaynine High, trained police dogs sniff outside student lockers, and school officials open and search lockers when the dogs bark and alert teachers to the presence of narcotics.		
Southeast High has trained police dogs at school doorways sniffing each student's backpack or bookbag as students enter the building.		

Detection High places young-looking undercover police officers into the senior class to befriend students and uncover information about drug dealing and about students obtaining abortions without the parental consent required under state law. They turn in several of their "friends."		
As a requirement for advancing to the next grade at J. Edgar Hoover High, all students must take a polygraph ("lie-detector" test) and answer one question: "Did you cheat on any of your final exams this year?"		
At Thurgood Marshall High's homecoming dance, all of the chaperones carry an alcohol tester. Throughout the dance, the chaperones may approach any student and have him or her blow into the machine. If alcohol is detected, a red light goes on and the student's parents are called to take the student home.		
At John Marshall High's homecoming dance, students who test positive using the same device are expelled.		

